APRIL 1956

ZANE GREY'S

No. 11

KING of the ROYAL MOUNTED

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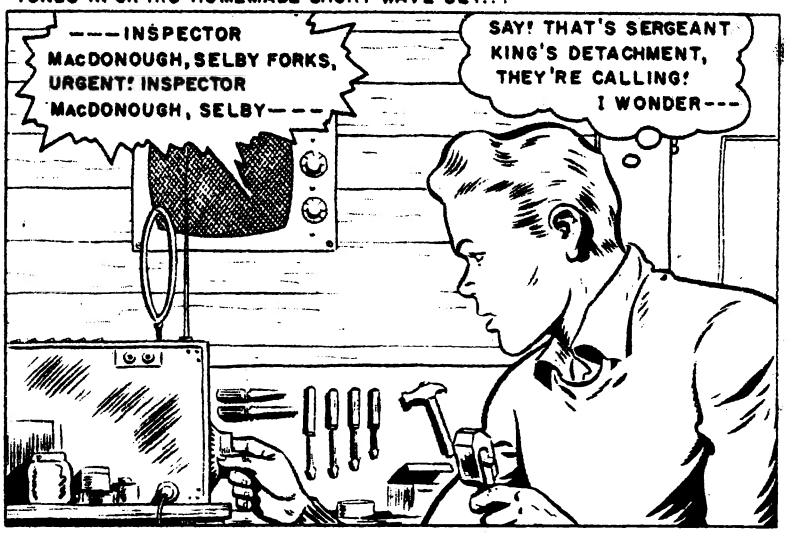
1/-

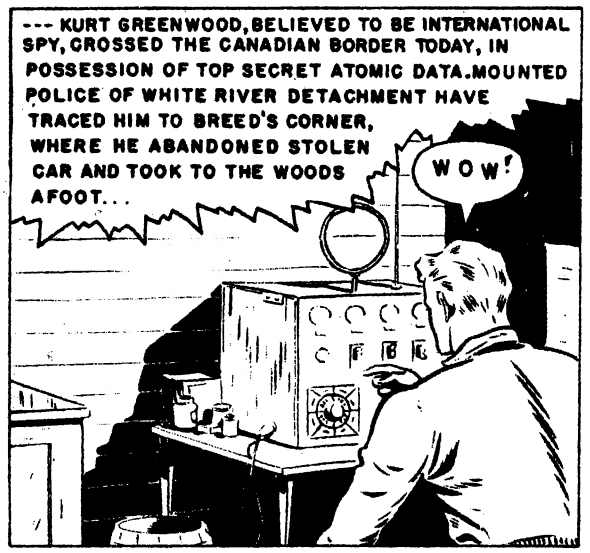
ZANE GREY'S

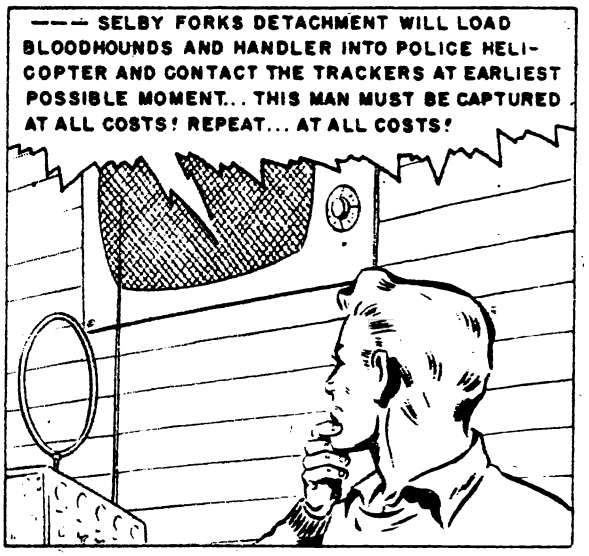
KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

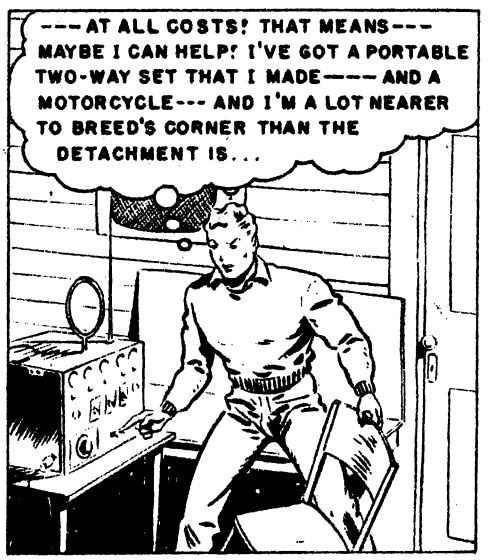
AND THE "STOLEN SECRETS"

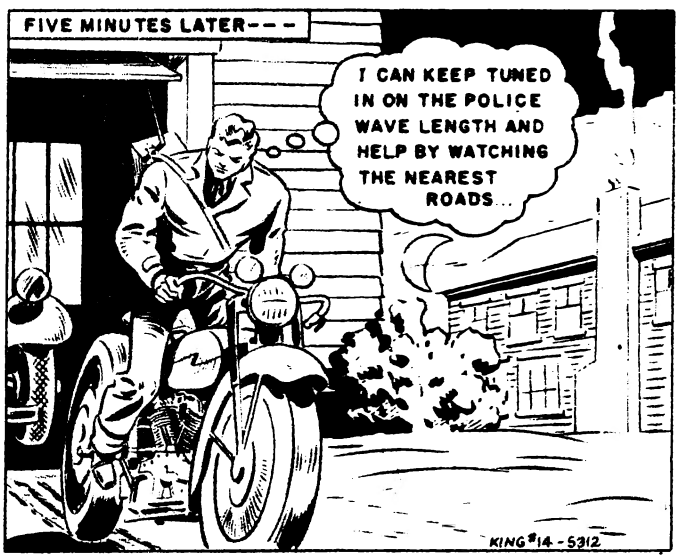
ONE LATE FALL EVENING, "KID," AS HIS FRIEND SERGEANT KING CALLS HIM, TUNES IN ON HIS HOMEMADE SHORT-WAVE SET...











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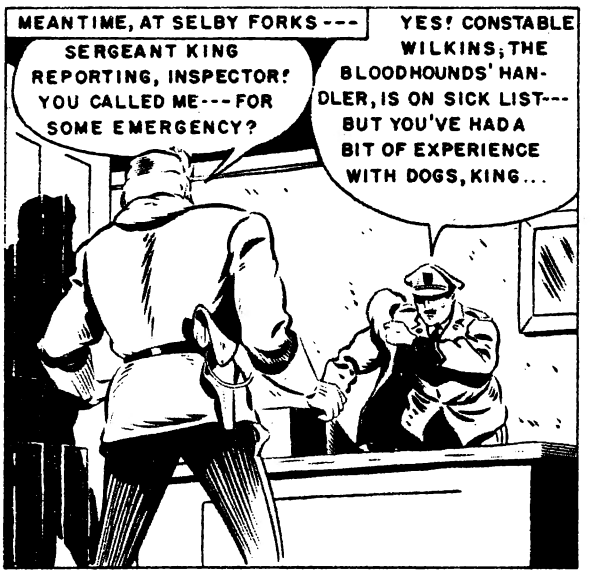
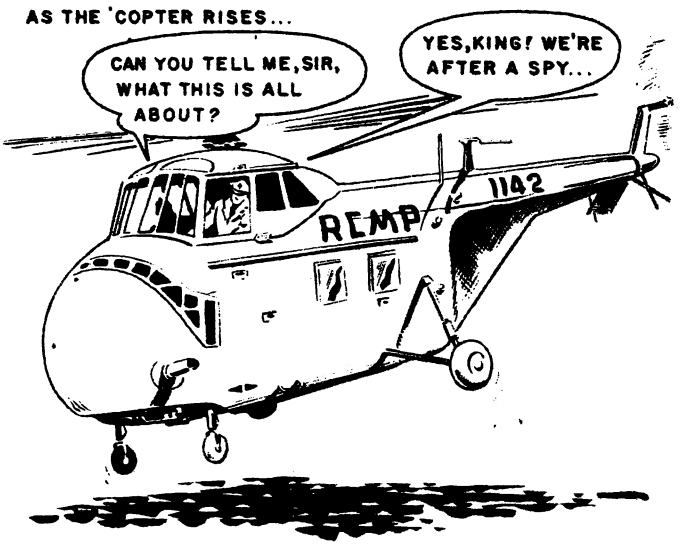
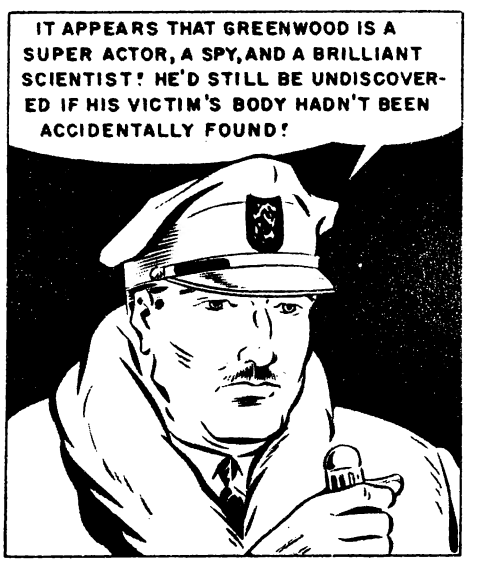

MEANTIME, AT SELBY FORKS---
SERGEANT KING REPORTING, INSPECTOR! YOU CALLED ME---FOR SOME EMERGENCY?
YES! CONSTABLE WILKINS; THE BLOODHOUNDS' HANDLER, IS ON SICK LIST---BUT YOU'VE HAD A BIT OF EXPERIENCE WITH DOGS, KING...

GET BOTH HOUNDS---BELLE AND BUGLE---AND BRING THEM TO THE HELICOPTER! I'LL BE WARMING THE ENGINE ---BUT HURRY!
YES, SIR! YOU'LL NOT HAVE TO WAIT FOR ME!

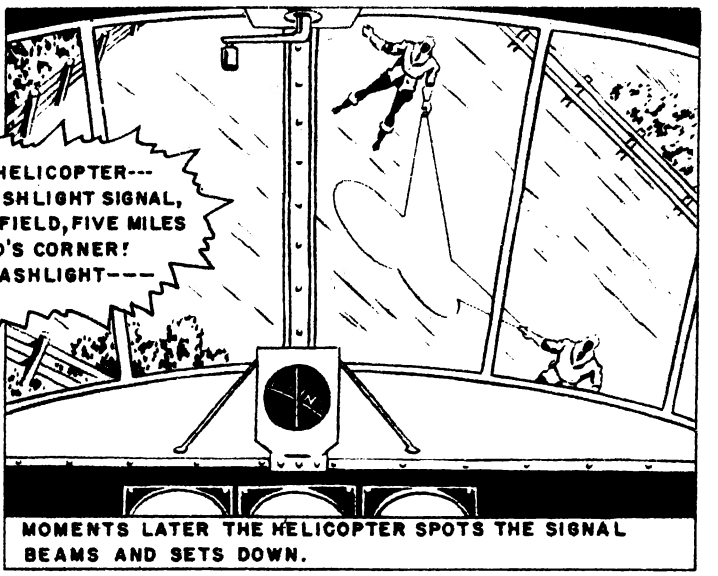
LOOMING HUGE IN THE MOONLIGHT, THE TWO TRAINED HOUNDS STRAIN AT LEASH, EAGER FOR ACTION.
INSIDE WITH YOU, KING!


AS THE 'COPTER RISES...
CAN YOU TELL ME, SIR, WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?
YES, KING! WE'RE AFTER A SPY...
RCMP
1142

DID THEY SAY HOW GREENWOOD OBTAINED THE ATOM SECRETS, INSPECTOR?
YES, BRIEFLY! HE MURDERED ONE OF THE TOP SHELF SCIENTISTS---HID THE BODY---TOOK THE MAN'S PLACE! AMAZING IMPERSONATION ———

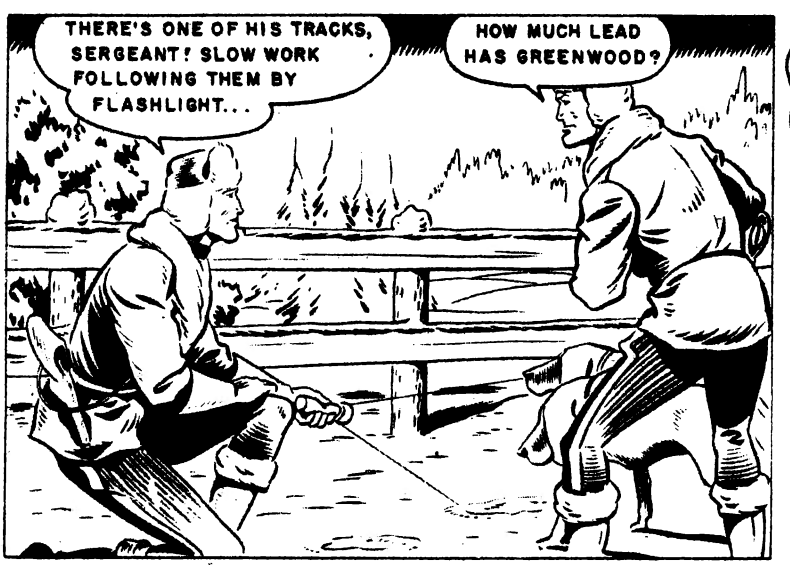

IT APPEARS THAT GREENWOOD IS A SUPER ACTOR, A SPY, AND A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST! HE'D STILL BE UNDISCOVERED IF HIS VICTIM'S BODY HADN'T BEEN ACCIDENTALLY FOUND!

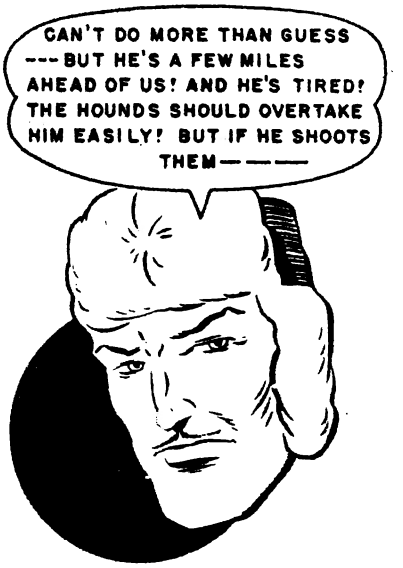
NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE MAN IS DANGEROUS, AND PROBABLY ARMED --- EH? THAT'S THE POLICE TRACKERS, COMING IN...


GROUND TO HELICOPTER--- LOOK FOR FLASHLIGHT SIGNAL, TRIANGULAR FIELD, FIVE MILES NORTH BREED'S CORNER! LOOK FOR FLASHLIGHT---
MOMENTS LATER THE HELICOPTER SPOTS THE SIGNAL BEAMS AND SETS DOWN.

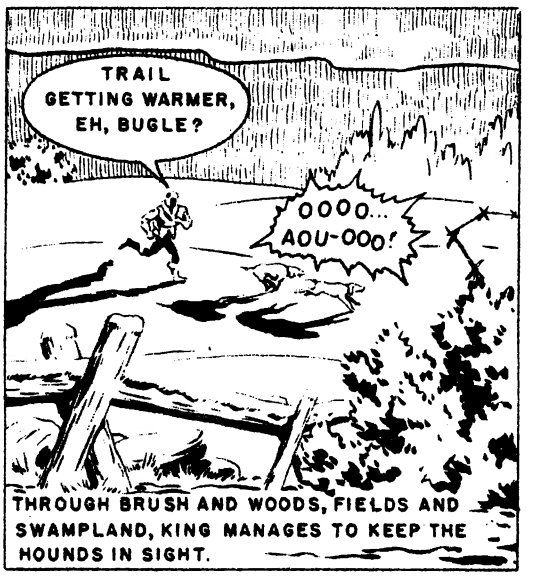
HELLO! YOU FELLOWS WERE PROMPT---WHO'S THAT? SERGEANT KING?
RIGHT! WITH INSPECTOR MAC!

WE HAVEN'T ANY TIME TO LOSE ---LET'S GET STARTED!
THIS WAY--- SERGEANT KING!


THERE'S ONE OF HIS TRACKS, SERGEANT! SLOW WORK FOLLOWING THEM BY FLASHLIGHT...
HOW MUCH LEAD HAS GREENWOOD?

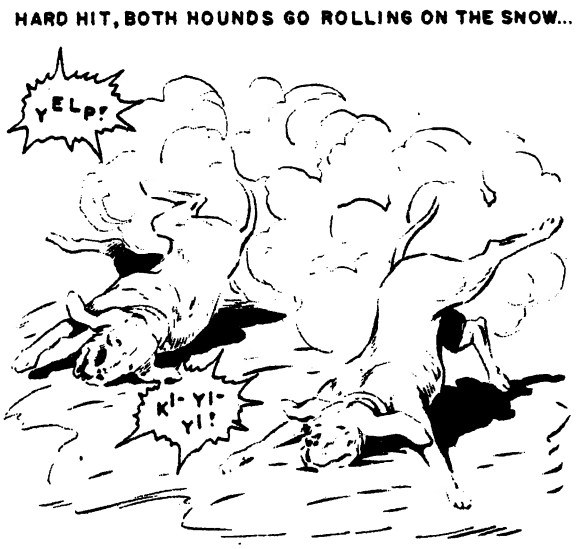

CAN'T DO MORE THAN GUESS ---BUT HE'S A FEW MILES AHEAD OF US! AND HE'S TIRED! THE HOUNDS SHOULD OVERTAKE HIM EASILY! BUT IF HE SHOOTS THEM----

I'LL KEEP CLOSE TO THEM---PROTECT THEM IF I CAN!
GOOD LUCK, THEN! WE'LL FOLLOW YOU!


TRAIL GETTING WARMER, EH, BUGLE?
OOOO... AOU-OOO!
THROUGH BRUSH AND WOODS, FIELDS AND SWAMPLAND, KING MANAGES TO KEEP THE HOUNDS IN SIGHT.

THEN, AS THEY CROSS A LITTLE CLEARING---
OOOOO-UH! AOU-OOOO!

CRACK!
KRANG!

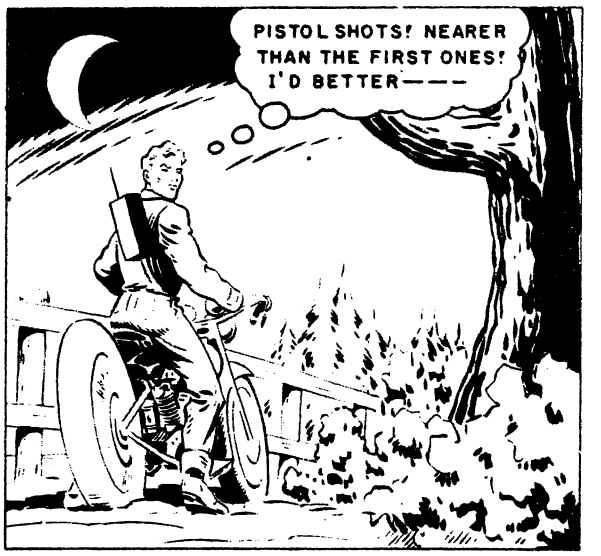

HARD HIT, BOTH HOUNDS GO ROLLING ON THE SNOW...
YELP!
KI-YI-YI!

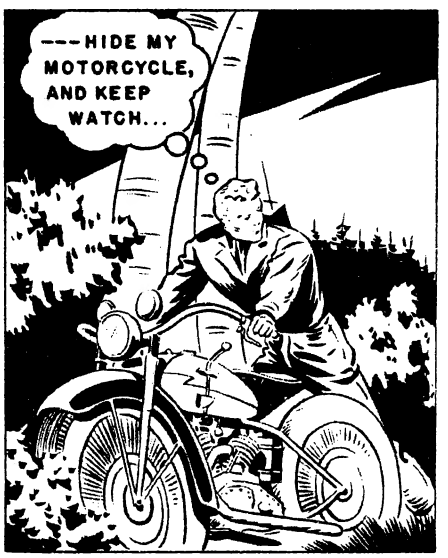
YOW-WOW! YAARRGH!
... BUT WITH A HOWL OF PAIN AND ANGER, GALLANT BUGLE LURCHES ON, IGNORING HIS HURT SHOULDER.

FROM THE FAR SIDE OF THE CLEARING, KING'S PISTOL SPEAKS---WITH THE FAINT CHANCE OF A LUCKY HIT!
BRAMM! BANG!

CAN'T STOP --- TO HELP THE HOUNDS! OTHERS WILL DO THAT! HAVE TO STOP GREENWOOD---
BAM! BANG! BANG!

THERE --- THAT WAY! I THOUGHT I HEARD HIM---
BUT WITHOUT THE HOUNDS' HELP, KING'S TRAILING BECOMES MORE OR LESS GUESSWORK.

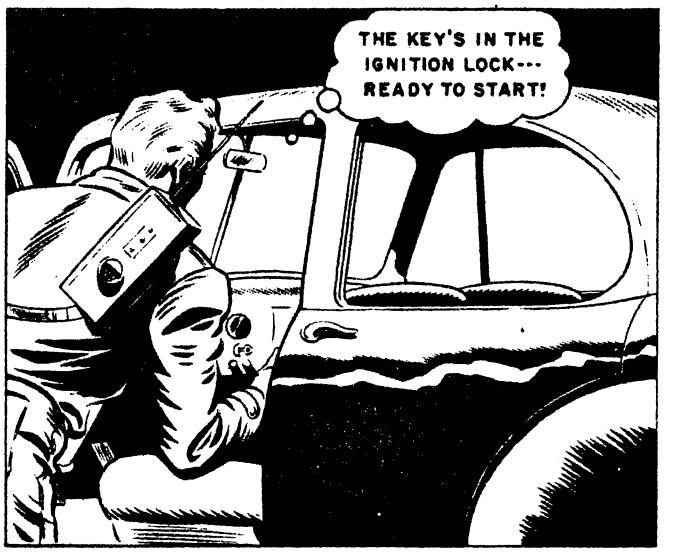

PISTOL SHOTS! NEARER THAN THE FIRST ONES! I'D BETTER---

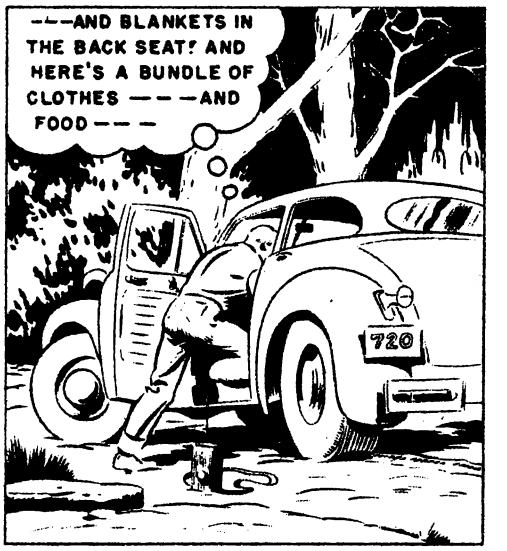

---HIDE MY MOTORCYCLE, AND KEEP WATCH...

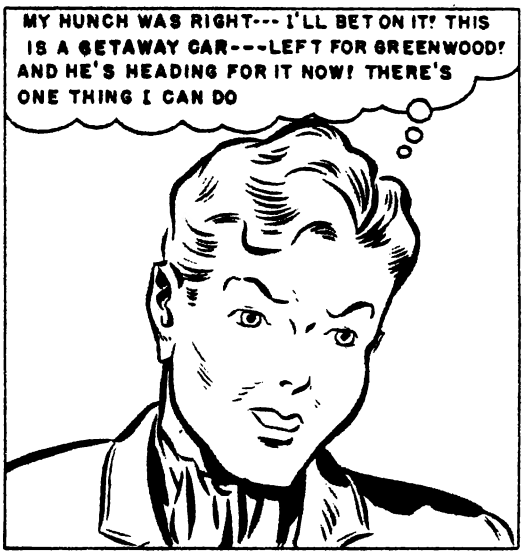
---HUH? A CAR! PARKED HERE!

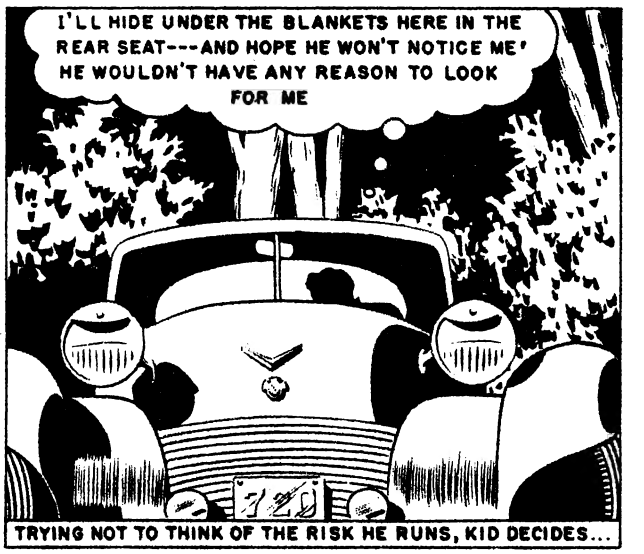
SA-AY! THAT'S THE LICENSE PLATE OF A CAR THAT WAS STOLEN A MONTH AGO! I HEARD IT REPORTED ON THE POLICE BROADCAST!

I'VE GOT A HUNCH! MAYBE IT'S CRAZY, BUT---


THE KEY'S IN THE IGNITION LOCK--- READY TO START!


---AND BLANKETS IN THE BACK SEAT! AND HERE'S A BUNDLE OF CLOTHES ---AND FOOD ---
720

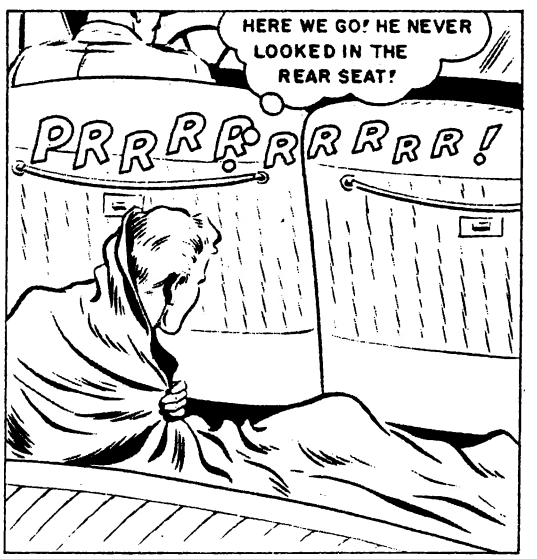

MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT--- I'LL BET ON IT! THIS IS A GETAWAY CAR---LEFT FOR GREENWOOD! AND HE'S HEADING FOR IT NOW! THERE'S ONE THING I CAN DO

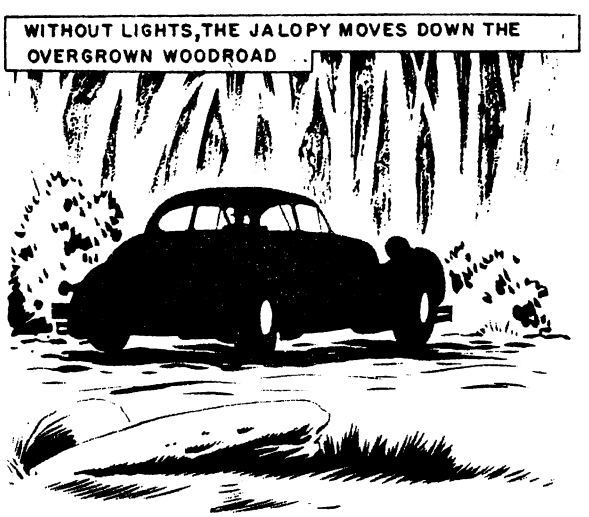

I'LL HIDE UNDER THE BLANKETS HERE IN THE REAR SEAT---AND HOPE HE WON'T NOTICE ME! HE WOULDN'T HAVE ANY REASON TO LOOK FOR ME
TRYING NOT TO THINK OF THE RISK HE RUNS, KID DECIDES...

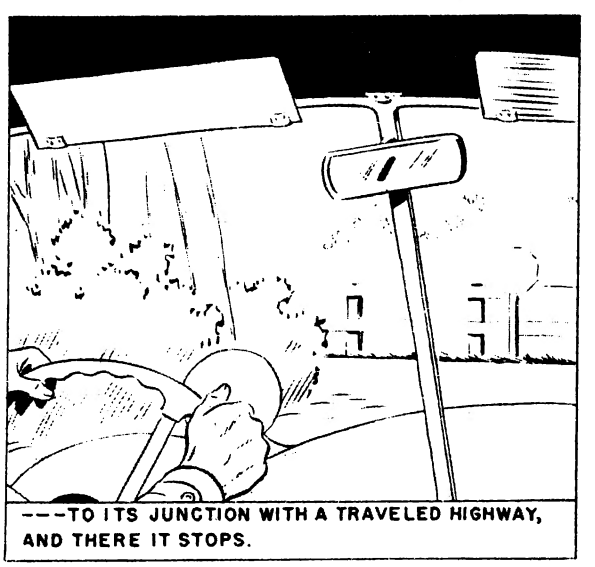
A MINUTE LATER, FOOTSTEPS CRUNCH SOFTLY ACROSS THE SNOWY HIGHWAY.

AHHH! IT IS HERE!

I AM FAR ENOUGH AHEAD---I THINK! IF THE ENGINE STARTS QUIETLY---

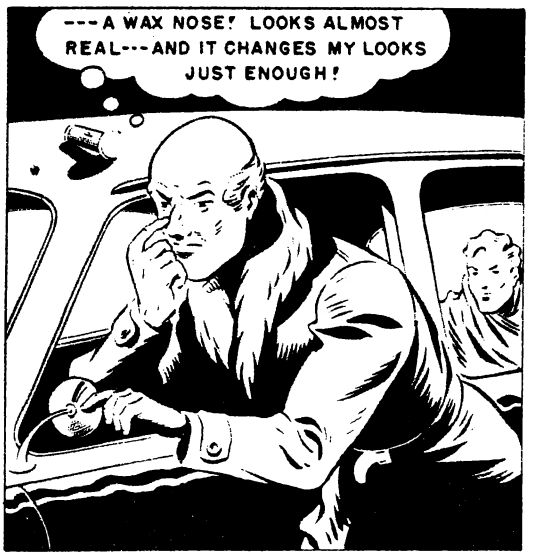

HERE WE GO! HE NEVER LOOKED IN THE REAR SEAT!
PRRRRRRRRRRR!

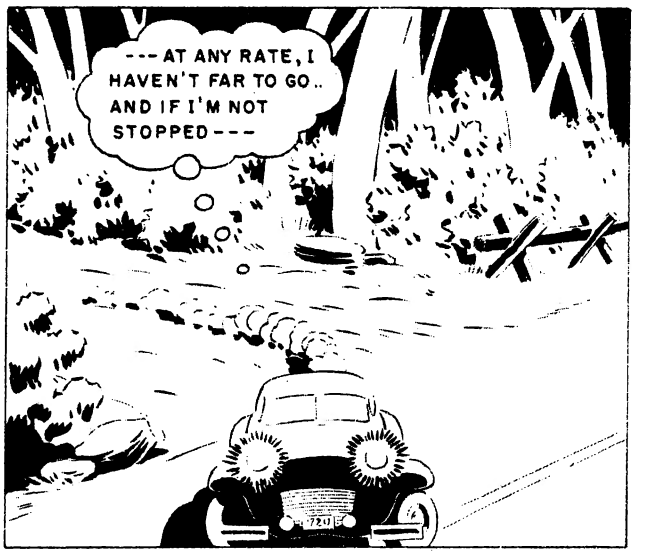

WITHOUT LIGHTS, THE JALOPY MOVES DOWN THE OVERGROWN WOODROAD

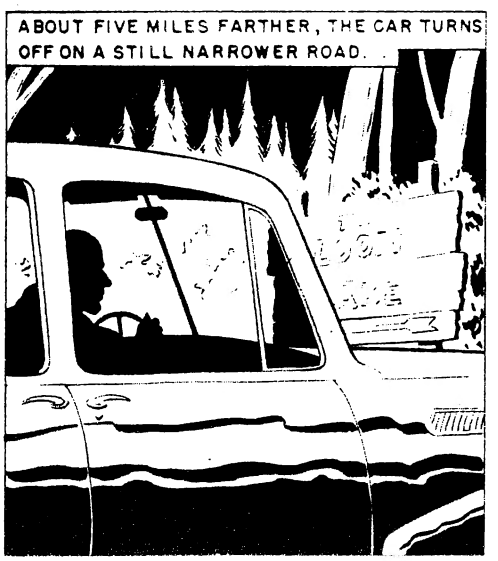

---TO ITS JUNCTION WITH A TRAVELED HIGHWAY, AND THERE IT STOPS.

NOW TO CHANGE MY CLOTHING---

THEY ARE DIRTY, BUT THEY FIT! A GOOD DISGUISE! BUT I NEED ONE MORE THING ..IT WAS IN THE BUNDLE .


---A WAX NOSE! LOOKS ALMOST REAL---AND IT CHANGES MY LOOKS JUST ENOUGH!

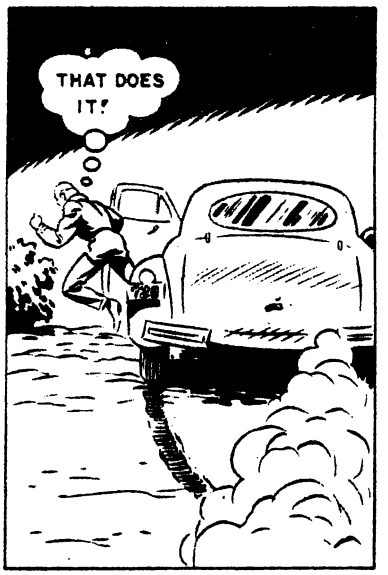

---AT ANY RATE, I HAVEN'T FAR TO GO.. AND IF I'M NOT STOPPED---

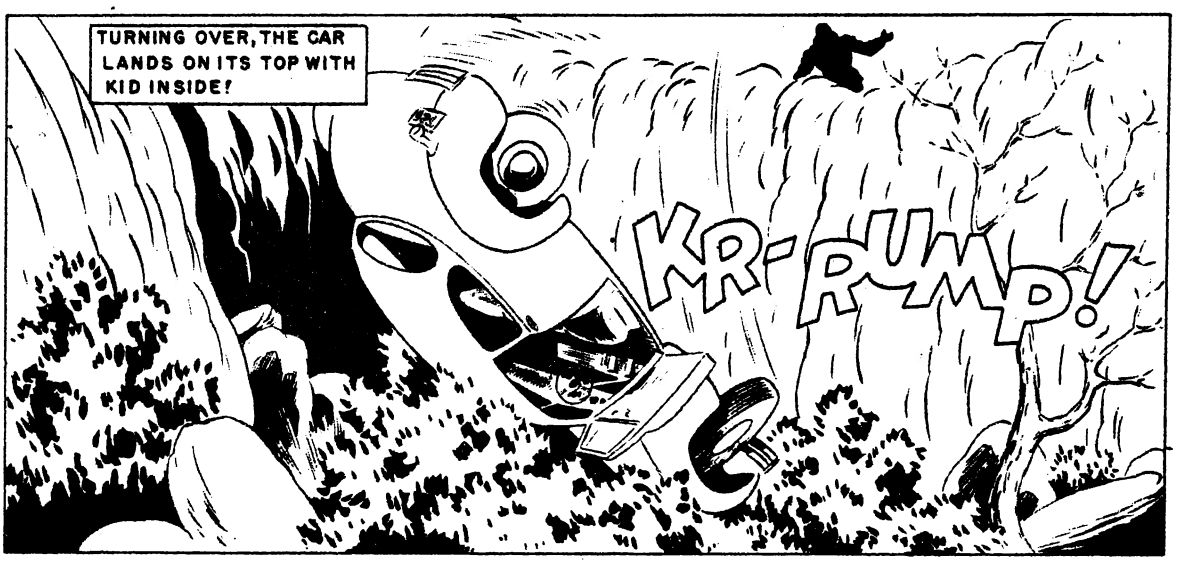

ABOUT FIVE MILES FARTHER, THE CAR TURNS OFF ON A STILL NARROWER ROAD.

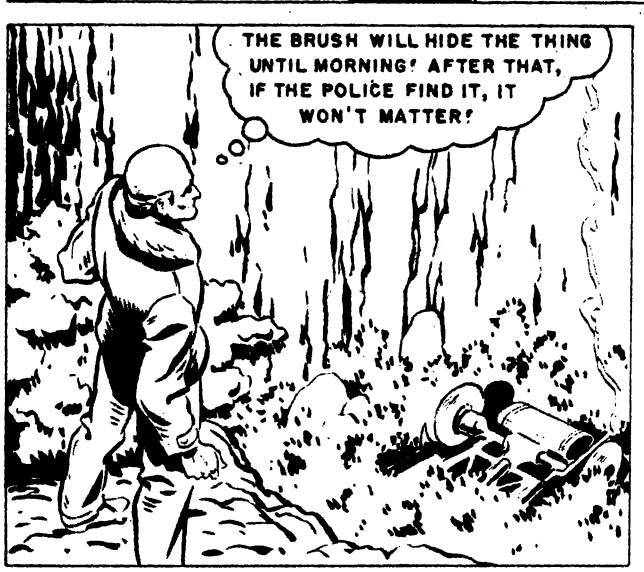
AND FINALLY COMES IN SIGHT OF SEVERAL LOG BUILDINGS BY A LAKE SHORE.

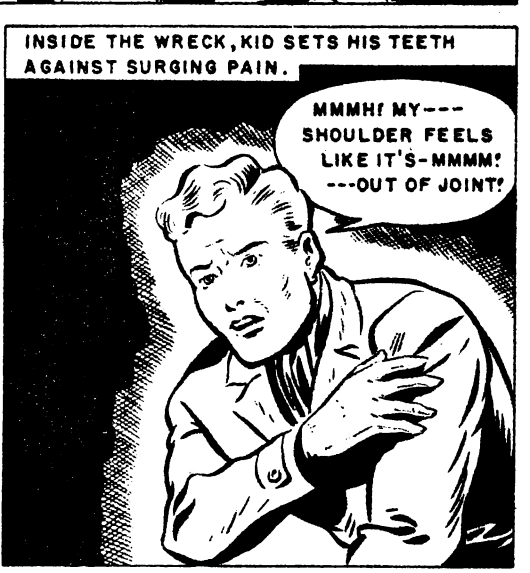
THIS GULLY WILL DO!

LOW GEAR WILL GIVE ME TIME ENOUGH TO JUMP CLEAR--


THAT DOES IT!


TURNING OVER, THE CAR LANDS ON ITS TOP WITH KID INSIDE!
KR-RUMP!


THE BRUSH WILL HIDE THE THING UNTIL MORNING! AFTER THAT, IF THE POLICE FIND IT, IT WON'T MATTER!


INSIDE THE WRECK, KID SETS HIS TEETH AGAINST SURGING PAIN.
MMMH! MY--- SHOULDER FEELS LIKE IT'S-MMMM! ---OUT OF JOINT!

MY RADIO'S THE THING NOW! IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE DAMAGED. I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET OUT OF HERE.

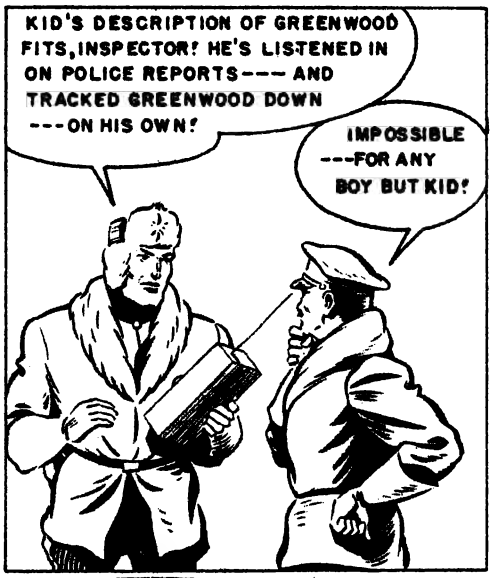
I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING! GUESS GREENWOOD HAS GONE! MMMH --- MY SHOULDER!

THERE HE IS --- WALKING RIGHT UP TO THE MAIN BUILDING

NOW THERE'S A LIGHT! SOMEBODY IS LETTING HIM IN! I'VE GOT TO CALL KING AND TELL HIM---

KID CALLING SERGEANT KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED! KID CALLING SERGEANT --- MMMH! --- SERGEANT KING!

KING! THIS IS "KID"! I'VE TAILED GREENWOOD TO MAXWELL'S HUNTING LODGE! HE'S INSIDE---NOW! MAXWELL'S---AT LOON LAKE ---
KID! HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S GREENWOOD! TELL ME, QUICK ---

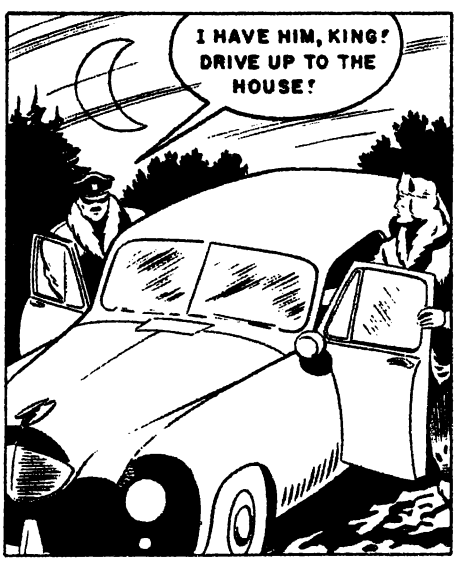

KID'S DESCRIPTION OF GREENWOOD FITS, INSPECTOR! HE'S LISTENED IN ON POLICE REPORTS--- AND TRACKED GREENWOOD DOWN ---ON HIS OWN!
IMPOSSIBLE ---FOR ANY BOY BUT KID!

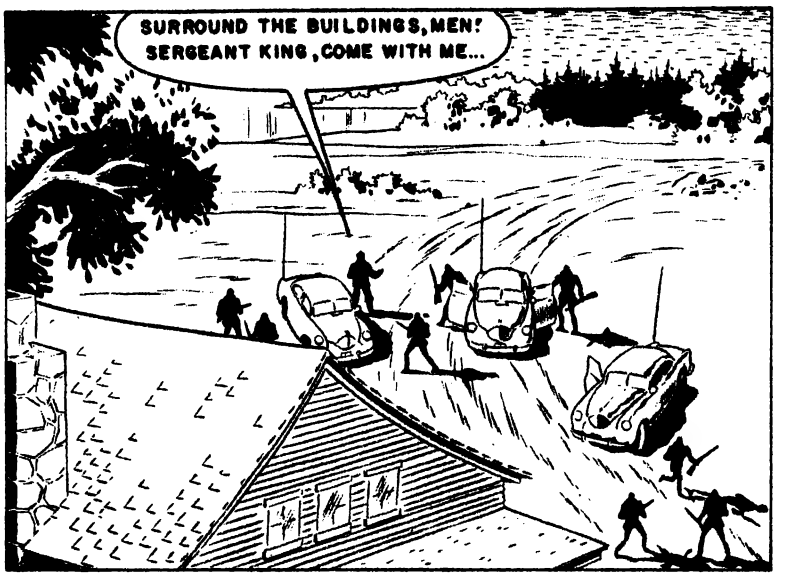
KID! STAY THERE AND KEEP OUT OF SIGHT TILL WE COME!
ALL RIGHT, KING! BUT--- BUT HURRY!

MY---MY SHOULDER! I---DON'T KNOW---IF I CAN STAND--- THE PAIN!

TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
THREE CARS! FULL OF MOUNTIES --- I HOPE!

KID! HOP IN HERE, QUICK!
I CAN'T, KING! MY SHOULDER---


I HAVE HIM, KING! DRIVE UP TO THE HOUSE!


SURROUND THE BUILDINGS, MEN! SERGEANT KING, COME WITH ME...

SHOULDER OR NOT---I'M NOT GOING TO BE LEFT OUT OF THIS!

OPEN---IN THE NAME OF THE QUEEN!

COME IN, GENTLEMEN! COME IN! WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
YOU'RE MAXWELL, I TAKE IT?

DID YOU ADMIT SOMEONE ELSE TO THIS HOUSE ABOUT HALF AN HOUR AGO, MAXWELL?
WHY---AH---YES, I DID, INSPECTOR! A RATHER DISREPUTABLE PERSON, BY HIS APPEARANCE! SAID HE'D GOTTEN LOST AND DRIVEN OFF THE ROAD...

I TURNED HIM OVER TO MY ODD JOB BOY, ALEC, AND HIS SISTER TO LOOK OUT FOR! I FANCY HE IS IN ALEC'S CABIN NOW... ALEC AND FELICE ARE THE ONLY ONES WITH ME, NOW THAT THE HUNTING SEASON IS OVER...
TAKE US TO THEM!

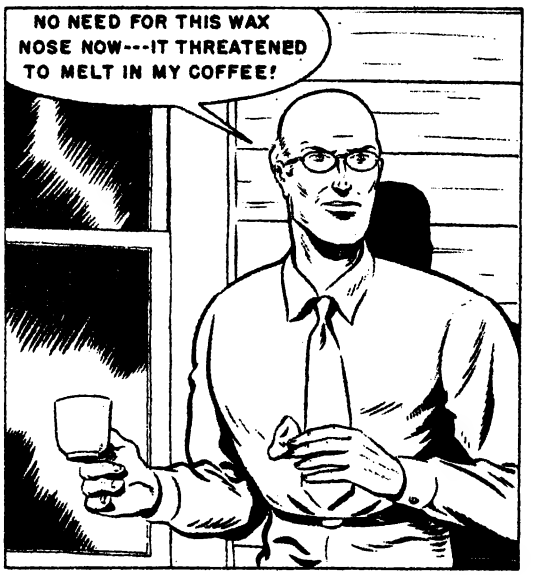
CERTAINLY, INSPECTOR! I'D NO IDEA I WAS HARBORING ANYONE WANTED BY THE POLICE...

THAT'S ALEC'S CABIN! THE ONLY ONE THAT'S GOT HEAT IN IT...

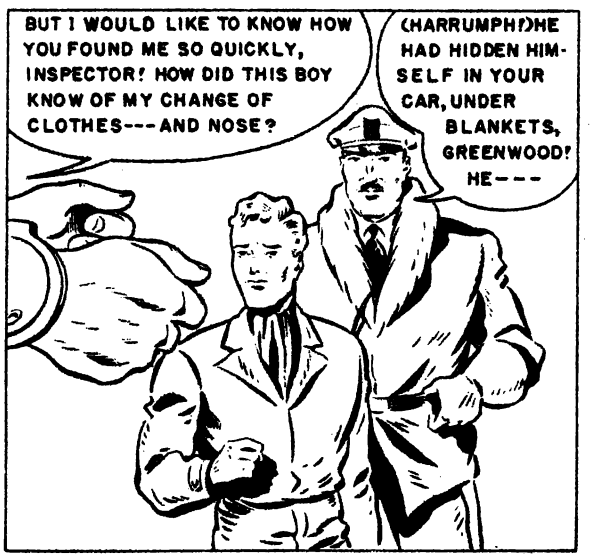
OOOH! M'SIEU MAXWELL---AND THE POLICE?
IT'S ALL RIGHT, FELICE! YOU'VE JUST BROUGHT SOMETHING TO THE STRANGER?

OUI! JUS' A POT OF COFFEE AND SOME SAN'WICH, M'SIEU---
VERY WELL! RUN ALONG, FELICE!

THAT'S THE MAN WHO DROVE THE STOLEN CAR, KING! HE CHANGED CLOTHES--- AND THAT NOSE OF HIS IS WAX!
HMMM! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, GREENWOOD! FOR MURDER!


NO NEED FOR THIS WAX NOSE NOW---IT THREATENED TO MELT IN MY COFFEE!

I MUST WARN YOU, GREENWOOD... ANYTHING YOU MAY SAY FROM NOW ON MAY BE USED AGAINST YOU! YOU'LL BE EXTRADITED FOR TRIAL ———
---AND DULY EXECUTED, I EXPECT! IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER---
CLICK!


BUT I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW YOU FOUND ME SO QUICKLY, INSPECTOR! HOW DID THIS BOY KNOW OF MY CHANGE OF CLOTHES---AND NOSE?
(HARRUMPH!)HE HAD HIDDEN HIMSELF IN YOUR CAR, UNDER BLANKETS, GREENWOOD! HE---

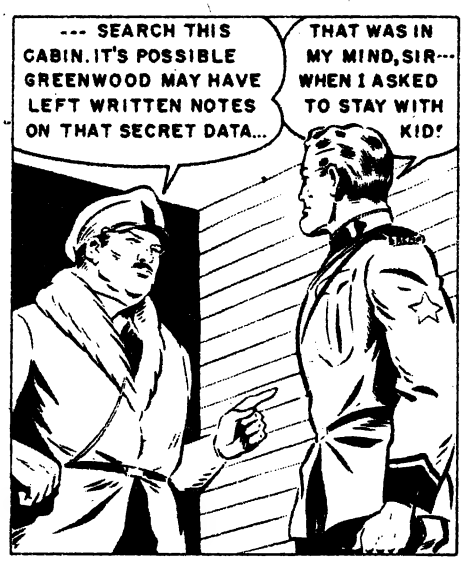
WHAT---?
OHHH---
HE'S FAINTED, INSPECTOR. HE WAS HURT WHEN THE CAR UPSET———

HIS SHOULDER IS OUT OF JOINT! THE SOONER IT'S BACK IN PLACE THE BETTER! MAY I TRY DOING IT NOW, KID?
GO AHEAD, KING!
I'LL HOLD HIM FOR YOU, KING---AFTER WE TURN GREENWOOD OVER TO OUR MEN OUTSIDE...

A LITTLE LATER---
THANKS, KING! THAT---UH---FEELS BETTER...
INSPECTOR, I'D LIKE TO SPEND THE NIGHT HERE, WITH KID--- IF MR. MAXWELL DOESN'T OBJECT! RIDING WON'T HELP THIS SHOULDER.
I'LL ASK HIM, KING!

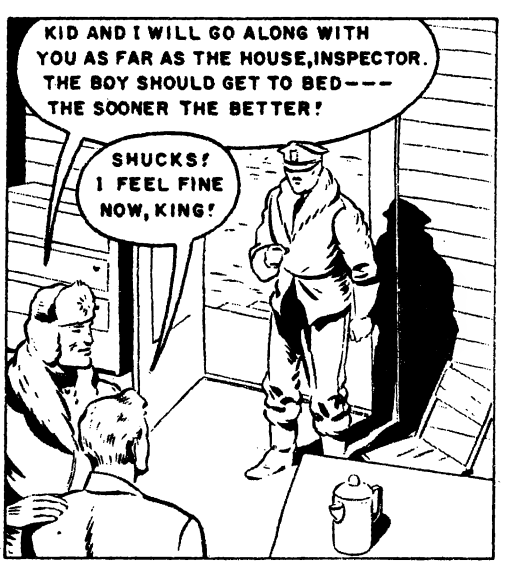
WHY SHOULD I OBJECT, INSPECTOR? I'LL HAVE FELICE MAKE UP BEDS IN THE BIG HOUSE FOR THE SERGEANT AND THE BOY. I'LL GO AND TELL HER NOW... NO USE TO SEND ALEC ---HE'S LIKE A CHILD!
THANK YOU, MR. MAXWELL!

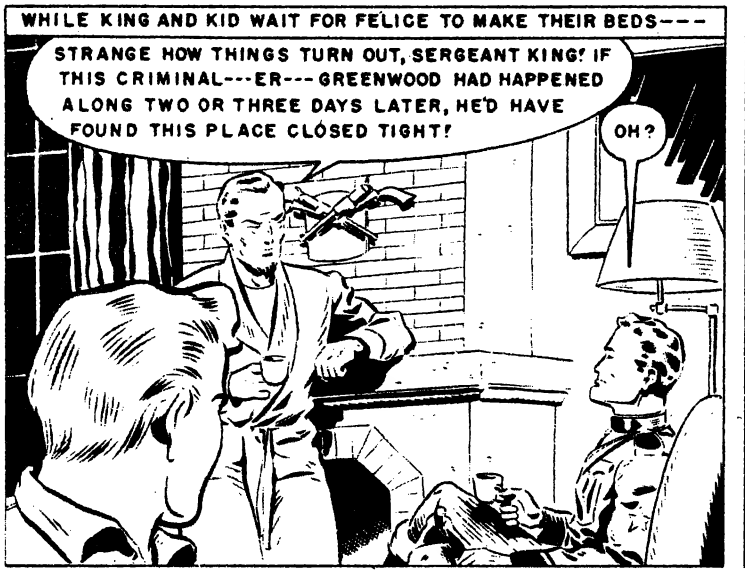
KING! WHILE YOU'RE HERE TONIGHT, TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO---

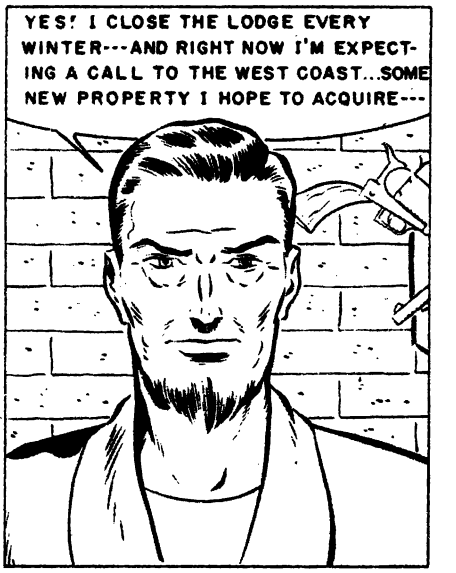

--- SEARCH THIS CABIN. IT'S POSSIBLE GREENWOOD MAY HAVE LEFT WRITTEN NOTES ON THAT SECRET DATA...
THAT WAS IN MY MIND, SIR--- WHEN I ASKED TO STAY WITH KID!

RED JACKET PRETTY--- JOLIE JAQUETTE.
OH ---! YOU LIKE RED, DO YOU, ALEC?

WELL, KING, I'LL LEAVE YOU NOW! I'LL HAVE A CAR PICK YOU AND KID UP IN THE MORNING...


KID AND I WILL GO ALONG WITH YOU AS FAR AS THE HOUSE, INSPECTOR. THE BOY SHOULD GET TO BED--- THE SOONER THE BETTER!
SHUCKS! I FEEL FINE NOW, KING!


WHILE KING AND KID WAIT FOR FELICE TO MAKE THEIR BEDS---
STRANGE HOW THINGS TURN OUT, SERGEANT KING! IF THIS CRIMINAL---ER---GREENWOOD HAD HAPPENED ALONG TWO OR THREE DAYS LATER, HE'D HAVE FOUND THIS PLACE CLOSED TIGHT!
OH?


YES! I CLOSE THE LODGE EVERY WINTER---AND RIGHT NOW I'M EXPECTING A CALL TO THE WEST COAST...SOME NEW PROPERTY I HOPE TO ACQUIRE---

M'SIEU, THE ROOM IS PREPARE' NOW! I HAVE LAY OUT PAJAMAS---
AH! VERY WELL, FELICE! YOU WILL SHOW OUR GUESTS UPSTAIRS!

I'LL BE TURNING IN MYSELF SHORTLY, SERGEANT! BUT IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE---
NO, THANK YOU! KID AND I WILL BE FINE...

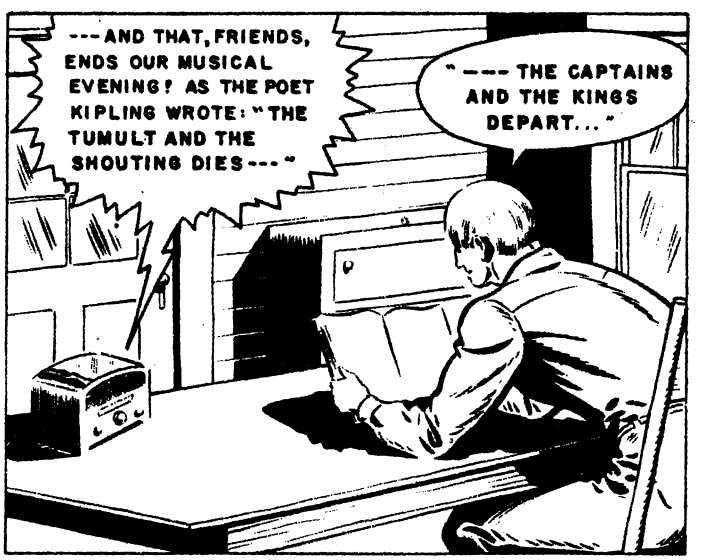
SAY, KING! FELICE IS PRETTY, ISN'T SHE? TOO BAD ABOUT HER BROTHER!
BETTER GO TO SLEEP NOW, KID!
CLICK

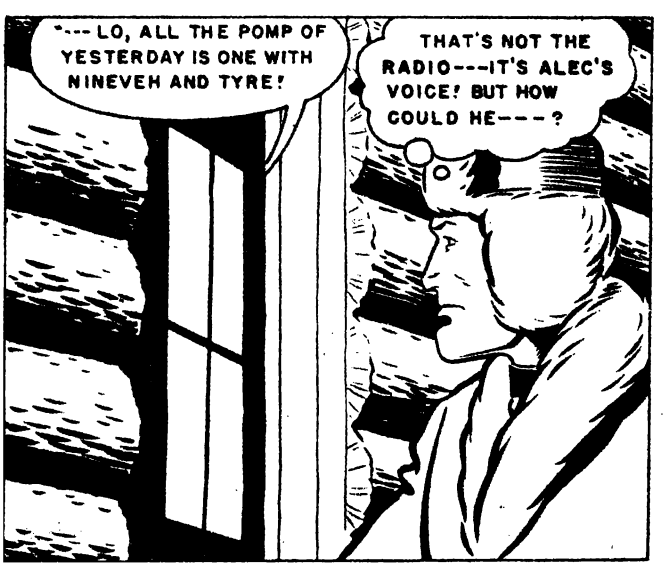
LATER...
KID'S SNORING! I'LL TIPTOE OUTSIDE AND HAVE A LOOK AT ALEC'S CABIN...

THAT'S MAXWELL! I GUESS THE COAST IS CLEAR...
ZZZZZZZZZ

ALEC'S RADIO IS STILL ON! THE BOY KEEPS LATE HOURS...

I'LL GO IN QUIETLY --- TRY NOT TO STARTLE HIM...


---AND THAT, FRIENDS, ENDS OUR MUSICAL EVENING! AS THE POET KIPLING WROTE: "THE TUMULT AND THE SHOUTING DIES---"
"---THE CAPTAINS AND THE KINGS DEPART..."


"---LO, ALL THE POMP OF YESTERDAY IS ONE WITH NINEVEH AND TYRE!
THAT'S NOT THE RADIO---IT'S ALEC'S VOICE! BUT HOW COULD HE---?

HELLO, ALEC! I SAW YOUR LIGHT ON AND...
DON'T LIKE TO GO BED...

YOU WERE QUOTING KIPLING'S "RECESSIONAL"! WHAT OTHER POEMS DO YOU KNOW, ALEC?

WORDS LIKE MUSIC...
HMMM! HE'S NOT ACTING! WORDS ARE JUST SOUNDS TO HIM!

I'VE GOT IT! ALEC IS ONE OF THOSE RARE PERSONS WHO HAS THE MENTAL TRICK OF "TOTAL RECALL!" HIS MIND IS LIKE A TAPE RECORDER! AND GREENWOOD COULD HAVE USED HIM THAT WAY! I'LL TRY SOMETHING...

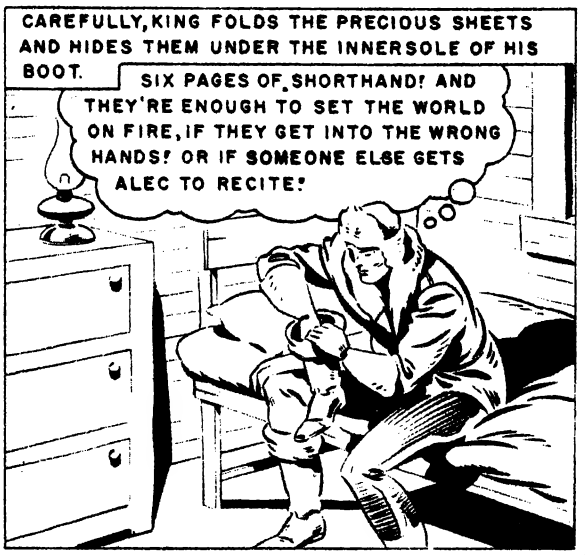
ALEC! WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT——— ATOMIC FISSION?... WHITE SANDS?
DON'T KNOW!

I HAVEN'T SPOKEN THE RIGHT KEY YET! IF ONLY I CAN SAY THE WORD THAT WILL START HIS MIND REPRODUCING WHAT HE HAS HEARD——— ———

ALEC---WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT FISSIONABLE MATERIAL? FISSIONABLE---
THE AMOUNT OF FISSIONABLE MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR CHAIN REACTION HAS BEEN GREATLY REDUCED BY AMERICAN SCIENTISTS——— ———

--- THIS IS IT!
--- AS A RESULT OF RECENT EXPERIMENTS, SO THAT EVEN THE WARHEADS OF SMALL EARTH-TO-AIR GUIDED MISSILES CAN BE CONSTRUCTED BY THE FOLLOWING FORMULA---

LATER...
YOU LIKE THAT?
YOU BET I DO, ALEC--- SIX PAGES OF SHORTHAND!


CAREFULLY, KING FOLDS THE PRECIOUS SHEETS AND HIDES THEM UNDER THE INNERSOLE OF HIS BOOT.
SIX PAGES OF SHORTHAND! AND THEY'RE ENOUGH TO SET THE WORLD ON FIRE, IF THEY GET INTO THE WRONG HANDS! OR IF SOMEONE ELSE GETS ALEC TO RECITE!

--- ALEC BETTER BE TAKEN INTO SAFE CUSTODY, FOR NOW---
ALEC! LET'S TAKE A WALK!
ALL RIGHT!---

COME ON, THEN---
CAREFUL! ALEC TURN BEAR LOOSE ---LIKE M'SIEU MAXWELL SAY! BEAR NOT HURT ALEC---

. WHAT? YOU TURNED. THE BEAR LOOSE TONIGHT--?
EEE-YOW! KING! THE BEAR --- LOOK OUT---

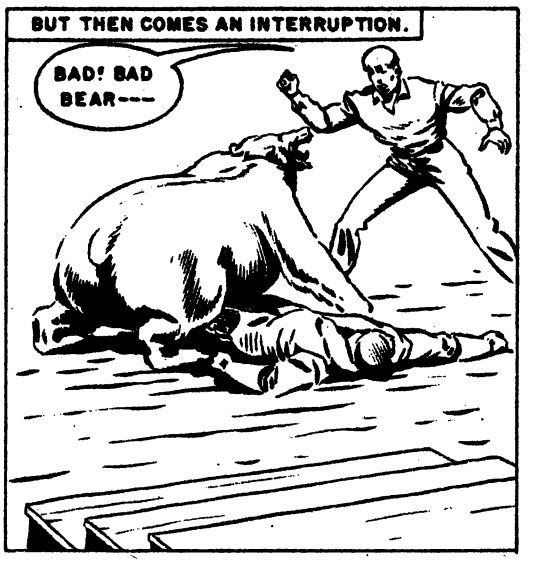
KID!
WOOF! WOOF!

KID---ON THE GROUND--- HURT OR---
BANG!

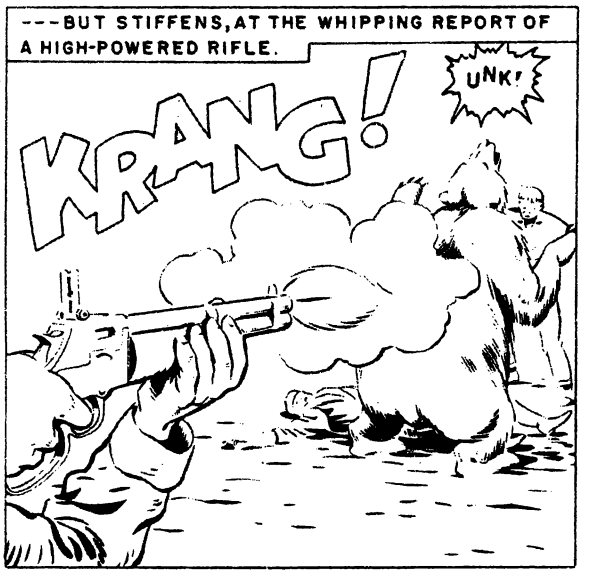
KING EMPTIES HIS GUN---EVERY SHOT AT A VITAL PART---WITHOUT STOPPING THE RAGING BRUTE.
BAM! BAM!
AOW-UGH!

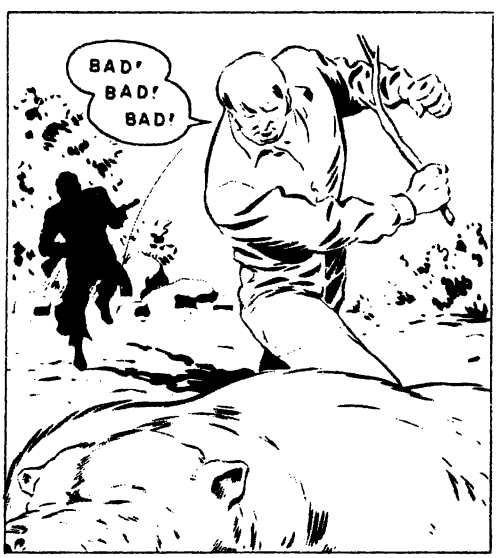
AS KING SPENDS HIS LAST BULLET, A MIGHTY PAW BOWLS HIM OVER!
OURRH!

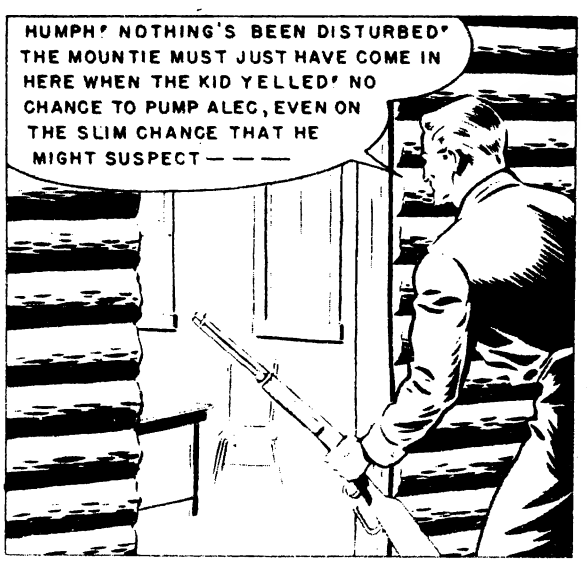
WITH A SAVAGE GROWL HE DROPS ON THE UNCONSCIOUS MOUNTIE--
GRRRR! OWRRH!

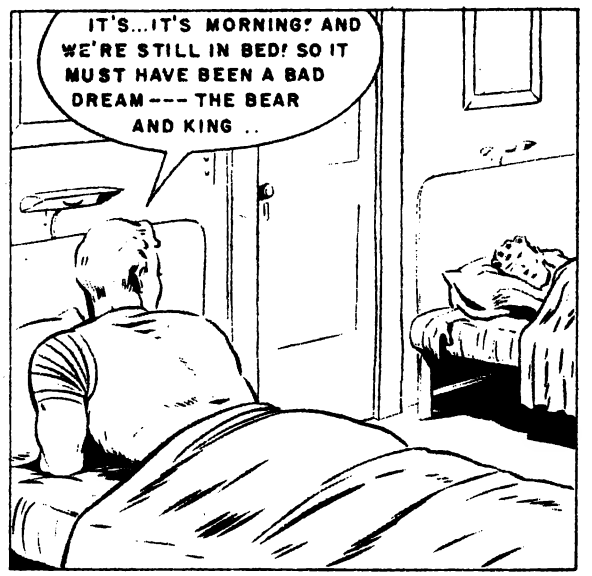

BUT THEN COMES AN INTERRUPTION.
BAD! BAD BEAR---

MORTALLY WOUNDED, BUT STILL DEADLY, THE BEAR REACHES OUT TO CRUSH HIS THIRD VICTIM---








IT'S...IT'S MORNING! AND WE'RE STILL IN BED! SO IT MUST HAVE BEEN A BAD DREAM --- THE BEAR AND KING ..

BUT---SAY! SOMETHING IS THE MATTER WITH KING! THAT BIG BRUISE ON HIS FACE! AND HE DOESN'T WAKE UP---! KING!
UHHHH! MMMMMPH!

KID! LOOK OUT! RUN! ---

KID! YOU--- YOU'RE ALL RIGHT? MY HEAD---UH---HOW DID WE GET BACK HERE? THE LAST I KNEW, THAT BEAR WAS---UMMM!
THEN---THEN IT WASN'T A DREAM!

NO DREAM ABOUT IT! MAXWELL MUST HAVE PUT US TO BED --- TAKEN OFF MY BOOTS, AND

THEY'RE HERE! HE DIDN'T FIND THEM---MY SHORT-HAND SHEETS ---
WHAT SHORTHAND SHEETS, KING?

HUSH, KID! IF ANYBODY HEARD YOU SAY THAT——— GET DRESSED! AND DON'T TALK! HURRY!
OH?

I'M---READY NOW, KING! I CAN'T GET MY ARM INTO THE SLEEVE, THOUGH---
COME ON!
RCMP

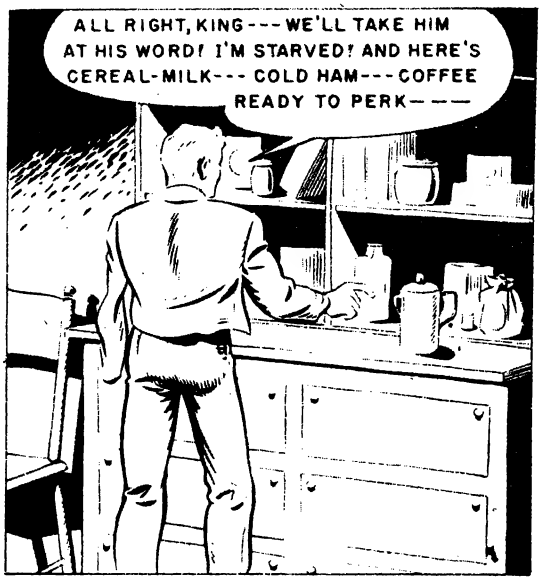
——— AND STAY CLOSE BEHIND ME, KID!

SA-AY! IT FEELS AS IF THE HOUSE WERE EMPTY!

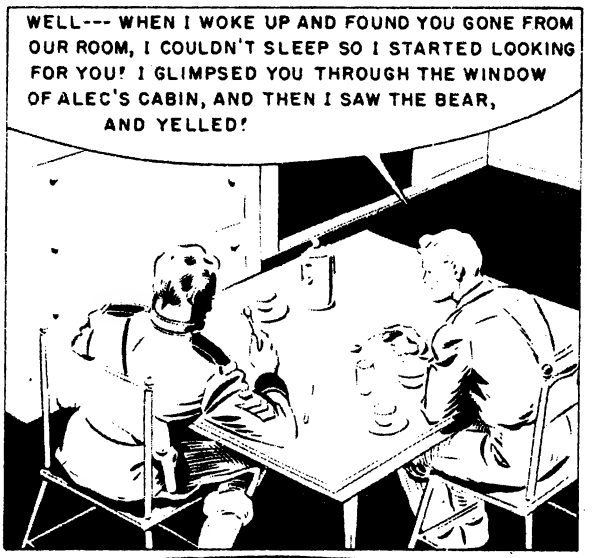
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, KID---NOBODY IN THE HOUSE BUT US!
LOOK! THE TABLE IS SET FOR TWO!

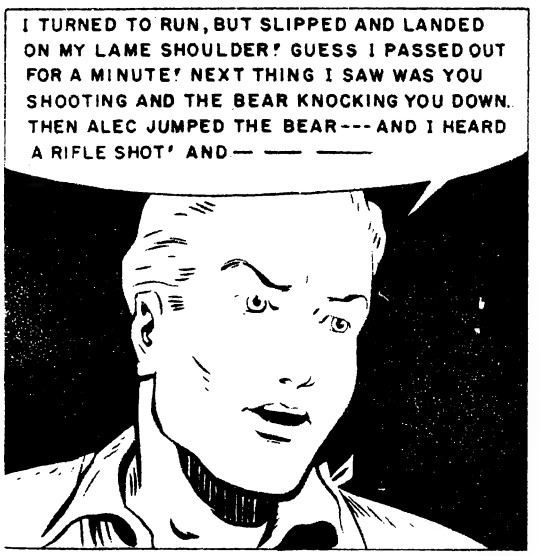
A NOTE--- ADDRESSED TO ME!
FROM MR MAXWELL, MAYBE?

FROM MAXWELL! HE SAYS---" BUSINESS OF A MOST URGENT NATURE HAS CALLED ME AWAY .. REGRET LAST NIGHT'S ACCIDENT, BUT AM GLAD NEITHER OF YOU WERE SERIOUSLY HURT! ALEC'S FAULT FOR UNCHAINING THE BEAR! PLEASE MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME, AND LOCK UP FOR ME!"

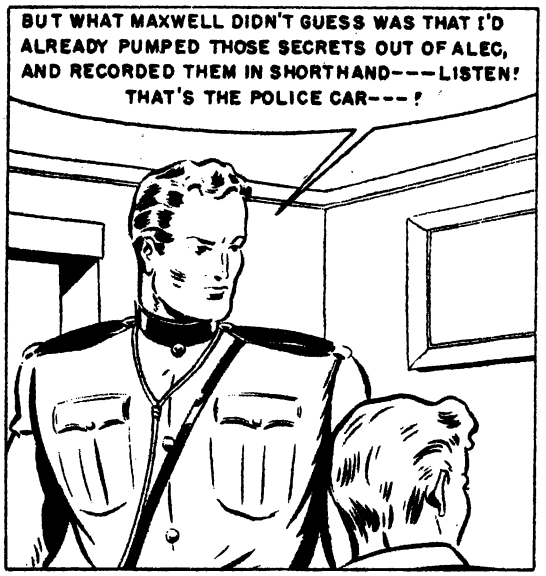

ALL RIGHT, KING---WE'LL TAKE HIM AT HIS WORD! I'M STARVED! AND HERE'S CEREAL-MILK--- COLD HAM---COFFEE READY TO PERK---

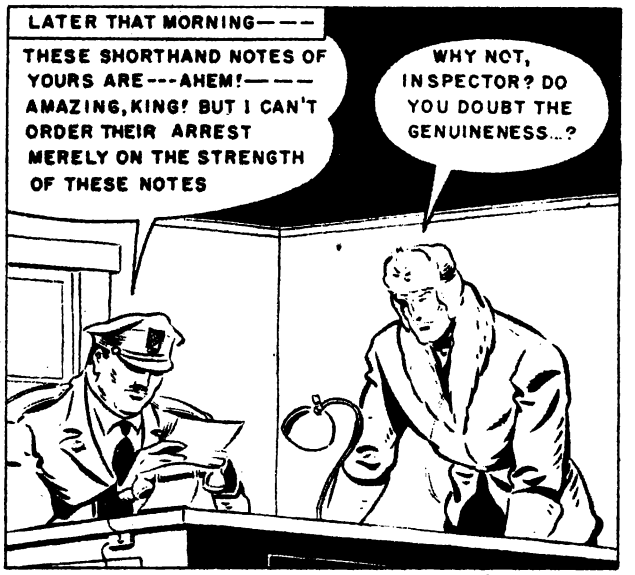
SAY, KING! A POLICE CAR WILL BE COMING TO PICK US UP PRETTY SOON, WON'T IT? SO WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME TO TALK
ALL RIGHT! THE LAST I SAW OF YOU, KID, THE BEAR HAD YOU DOWN AND OUT BUT YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SCRATCHED! HOW IS THAT?
RCMP

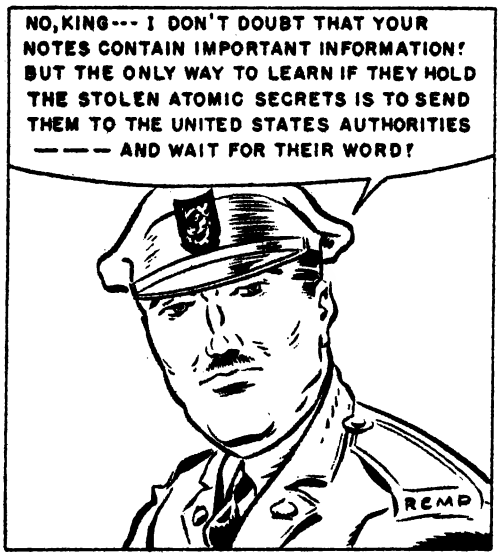

WELL--- WHEN I WOKE UP AND FOUND YOU GONE FROM OUR ROOM, I COULDN'T SLEEP SO I STARTED LOOKING FOR YOU! I GLIMPSED YOU THROUGH THE WINDOW OF ALEC'S CABIN, AND THEN I SAW THE BEAR, AND YELLED!


I TURNED TO RUN, BUT SLIPPED AND LANDED ON MY LAME SHOULDER! GUESS I PASSED OUT FOR A MINUTE! NEXT THING I SAW WAS YOU SHOOTING AND THE BEAR KNOCKING YOU DOWN. THEN ALEC JUMPED THE BEAR---AND I HEARD A RIFLE SHOT! AND---

KID, THAT EXPLAINS WHY MAXWELL DIDN'T LET THE BEAR FINISH ME! HE HAD TO SAVE ALEC! BECAUSE ALEC HOLDS THE SECRETS THAT GREENWOOD STOLE---
WOW!


BUT WHAT MAXWELL DIDN'T GUESS WAS THAT I'D ALREADY PUMPED THOSE SECRETS OUT OF ALEC, AND RECORDED THEM IN SHORTHAND---LISTEN! THAT'S THE POLICE CAR---!

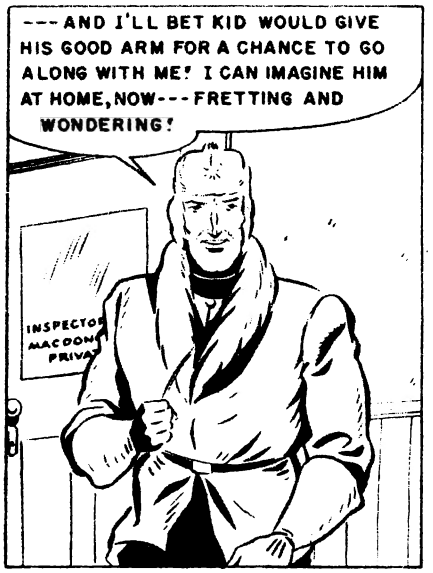

LATER THAT MORNING---
THESE SHORTHAND NOTES OF YOURS ARE---AHEM!--- AMAZING, KING! BUT I CAN'T ORDER THEIR ARREST MERELY ON THE STRENGTH OF THESE NOTES
WHY NOT, INSPECTOR? DO YOU DOUBT THE GENUINENESS...?


NO, KING--- I DON'T DOUBT THAT YOUR NOTES CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION! BUT THE ONLY WAY TO LEARN IF THEY HOLD THE STOLEN ATOMIC SECRETS IS TO SEND THEM TO THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES --- AND WAIT FOR THEIR WORD!
RCMP

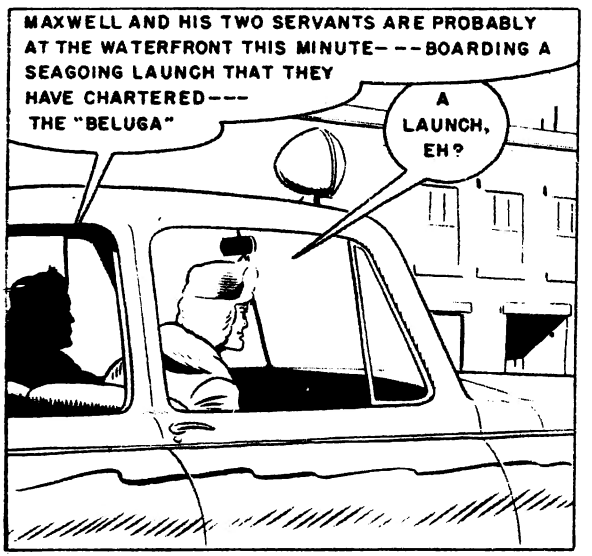
I HAVE ORDERED MAXWELL'S PARTY TRACED, HOWEVER! --- AND THIS CALL MAY BE A REPORT ON
BRRING!

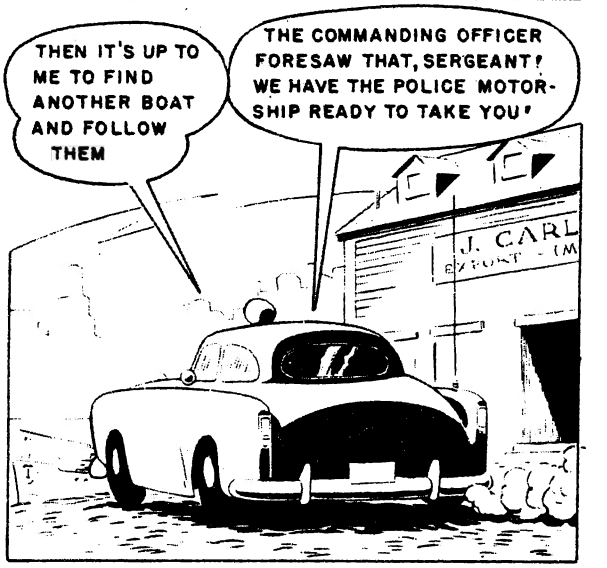
YES? MAXWELL BOARDED A PLANE FOR VANCOUVER... WITH ALEC AND FELICE DUCHAMPS? GOOD! I'LL TELETYPE THE OFFICER COMMANDING VANCOUVER.. WE'LL KEEP TRACK OF THEM!

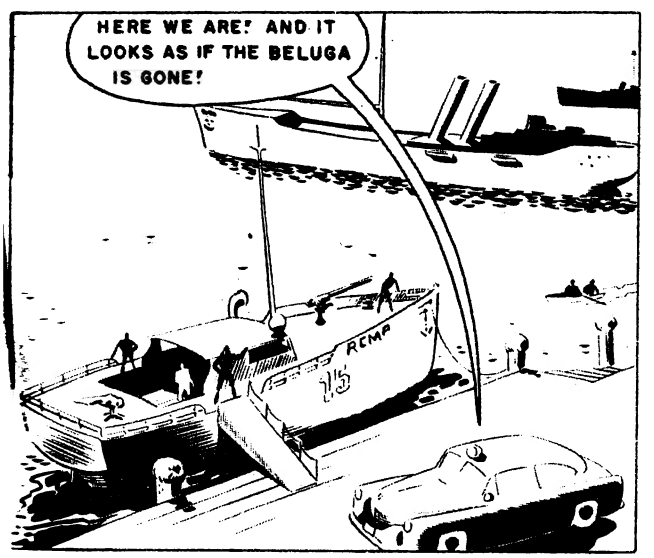
YOU WILL TAKE THE NEXT PLANE WEST, KING---AND KEEP ON THEIR TRAIL---UNTIL THE WORD COMES THROUGH TO ARREST THEM AS PERSONS DANGEROUS TO THE COMMONWEALTH! THAT'S ALL, FOR NOW!
THANK YOU, SIR! I'M GLAD YOU'RE KEEPING ME ON THE CASE.
RCMP


---AND I'LL BET KID WOULD GIVE HIS GOOD ARM FOR A CHANCE TO GO ALONG WITH ME! I CAN IMAGINE HIM AT HOME, NOW---FRETTING AND WONDERING!
INSPECTOR MACDONALD PRIVATE

THE FOLLOWING DAY--- AT A VANCOUVER AIR FIELD---
SERGEANT KING? WE'VE TRACED YOUR PARTY---
THANKS, CORPORAL! YOU CAN BRIEF ME, ON THE WAY...

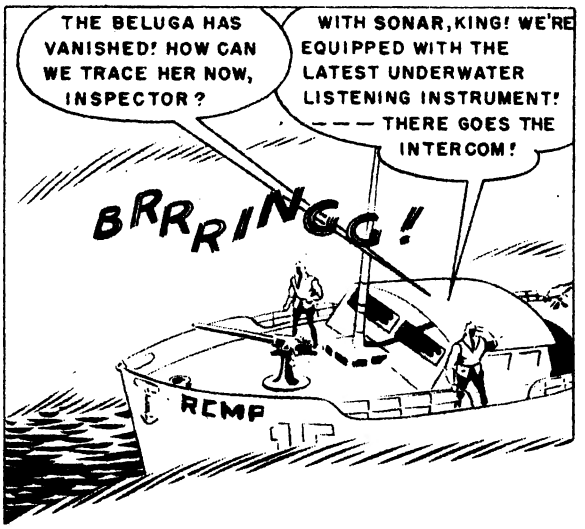

MAXWELL AND HIS TWO SERVANTS ARE PROBABLY AT THE WATERFRONT THIS MINUTE---BOARDING A SEAGOING LAUNCH THAT THEY HAVE CHARTERED--- THE "BELUGA"
A LAUNCH, EH?


THEN IT'S UP TO ME TO FIND ANOTHER BOAT AND FOLLOW THEM
THE COMMANDING OFFICER FORESAW THAT, SERGEANT! WE HAVE THE POLICE MOTOR-SHIP READY TO TAKE YOU!
J. CARL


HERE WE ARE! AND IT LOOKS AS IF THE BELUGA IS GONE!
REMP

YOU ARRIVED IN THE NICK OF TIME, KING! THE BELUGA IS STILL IN SIGHT! ANOTHER MINUTE AND WE'D HAVE SHOVED OFF WITHOUT YOU! ER--- I'M INSPECTOR ROSS!
I'M GLAD YOU WAITED, SIR!

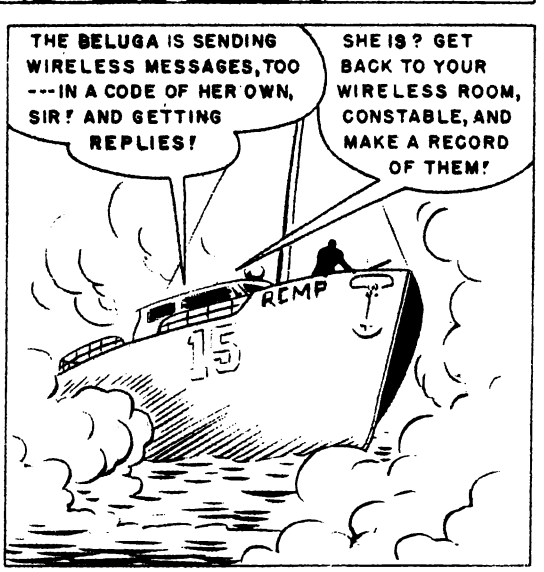
LATE THAT AFTERNOON THE FOG SHUTS DOWN!
BELUGA


THE BELUGA HAS VANISHED! HOW CAN WE TRACE HER NOW, INSPECTOR?
WITH SONAR, KING! WE'RE EQUIPPED WITH THE LATEST UNDERWATER LISTENING INSTRUMENT! --- THERE GOES THE INTERCOM!
BRRRINGG!
RCMP

BELUGA IS HEADING OUT TO SEA, INSPECTOR! PUTTING ON SPEED!
FOLLOW HER CLOSELY, THEN, CORPORAL! IF SHE NEARS THE OFFSHORE LIMIT, WE'LL HAVE TO BOARD HER ON SOME PRETEXT...

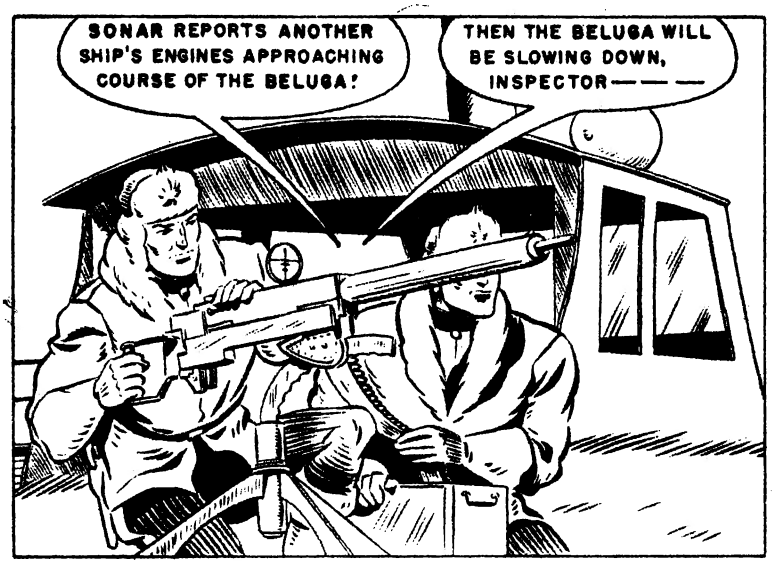
WIRELESS FROM VICTORIA, SIR! IN POLICE CODE!
THAT MIGHT BE WHAT WE'RE EXPECTING!

"ARREST MAXWELL---TAKE ALEC AND FELICE DUCHAMPS INTO PROTECTIVE CUSTODY AT ALL COSTS!" THAT'S FROM THE COMMISSIONER!
THEN MY NOTES DID GET ACTION ---FROM THE STATES!

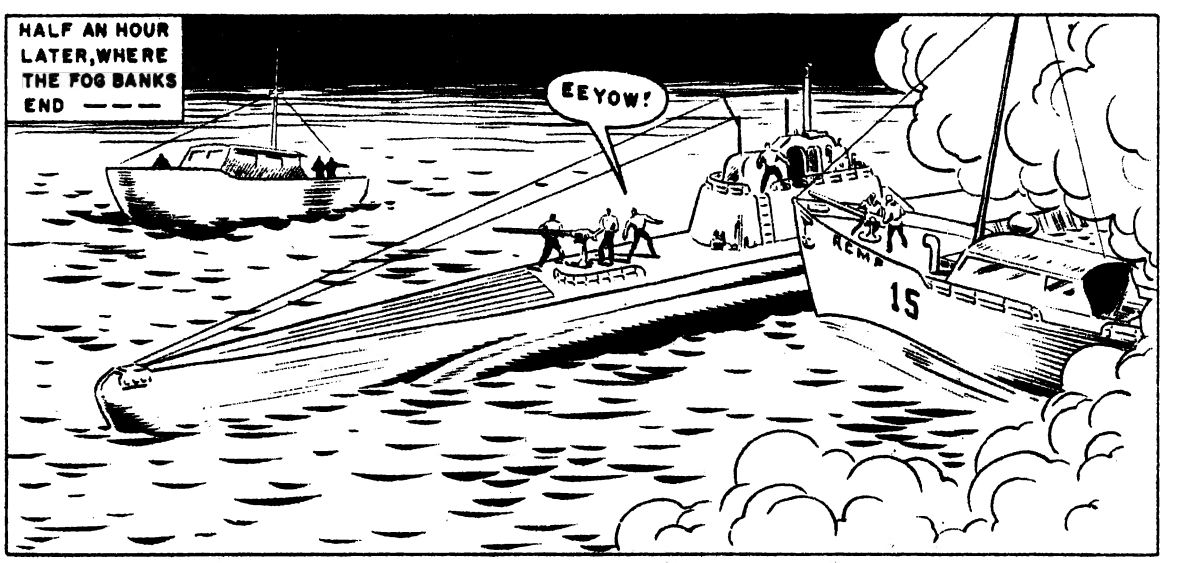

THE BELUGA IS SENDING WIRELESS MESSAGES, TOO ---IN A CODE OF HER OWN, SIR! AND GETTING REPLIES!
SHE IS? GET BACK TO YOUR WIRELESS ROOM, CONSTABLE, AND MAKE A RECORD OF THEM!
RCMP
15

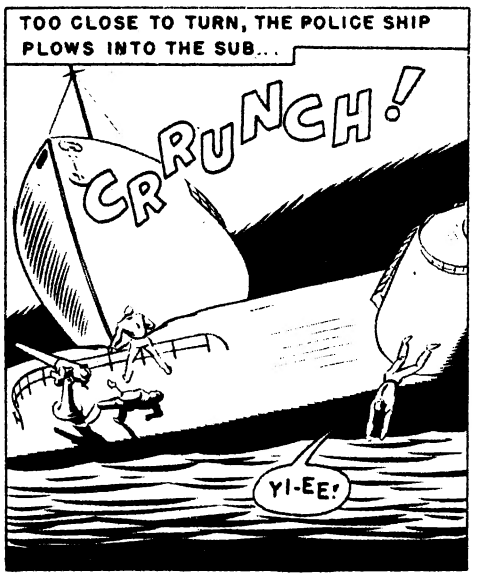
--- AND, KING! TELL SERGEANT BEALL TO MAN THE DECK GUNS!

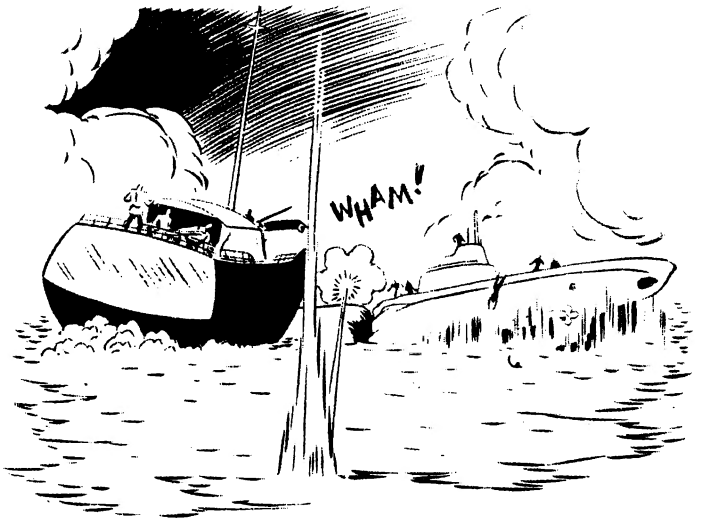
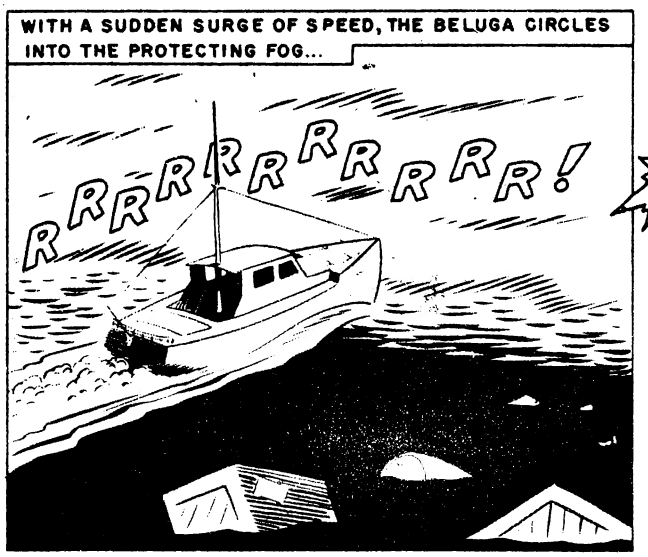
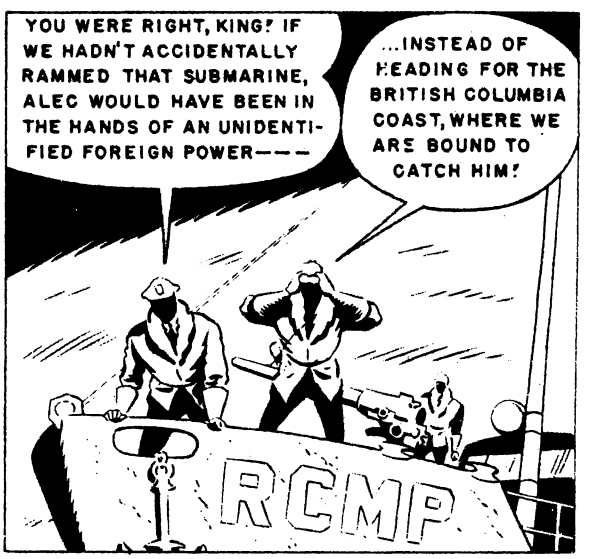
MINUTES LATER...
DECK GUNS MANNED, SIR! BUT THE BELUGA HAS PUT ON MORE SPEED THAN OUR SHIP CAN DEVELOP! AND SHE IS STILL SENDING CODE MESSAGES!
WE'LL KEEP AFTER HER, KING-- ORDERS ARE, "AT ALL COSTS!"


SONAR REPORTS ANOTHER SHIP'S ENGINES APPROACHING COURSE OF THE BELUGA!
THEN THE BELUGA WILL BE SLOWING DOWN, INSPECTOR———

---SLOWING DOWN TO TRANSFER ALEC TO THE OTHER SHIP, OR SUBMARINE! PERHAPS MAXWELL, TOO---THAT'S MY GUESS!
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, KING! WE'LL CARRY ON, WHATEVER TURNS UP!


HALF AN HOUR LATER, WHERE THE FOG BANKS END ---
EEYOW!
15





--- AND BACKS AWAY, LEAVING A GAPING HOLE.